

Top Teacher Test Prep, LLC: Roots to Remember

Root	Meaning	Examples
ab-, a-, abs-	away	abnormal, aversion
ac-, acu-	sharp or pointed	acid, acupuncture, acute
acri-	sharp, pungent, bitter	acid, acrimony
ad-, a-, ac-, af-, ag-,	movement toward; in addition to	adapt, affect, ascend, accept
al-, ap-, ar-, as-, at-	movement toward; in addition to	adapt, affect, ascend, accept
am-, amat-, amor-	love, loved	amateur, amorous
ambi-, amphi	both, on both sides	ambidexterity, amphibian
amic-, -imic-	friend	amicable, inimical
anima-	breath	animal, animated
ann-, -enn-	year, yearly	anniversary, biannual, millennium
ante-, anti-	before, in front of, prior to	antediluvian, antebellum, anticipate
aud-, audi-, auri	hearing, listening, sound, ear	auditorium, auditory
aug-, auct-	grow, increase	augment
acro-	height, summit, tip	acrobatics, acromegalia, acrophobia,
an-, a-	not, without	anhydrous, asymmetrical
ana-, an-	again, against, back, up	anabaptist, anaphylaxis, anode
ant-, anti-	against, opposed to, preventive	antibody, antipodes
anth-, antho-	flower	anther, anthology
anthropo-	human	anthropology, anthropogenic
apo-	away from, at the farthest point	apogee, apostasy
arche-, archi-	ruler	archetype, monarch
archaeo-, archeo-	ancient	archaeology or archeology, archaic
arist-, aristo-	excellence	aristocrat
aut-, auto-	self; directed from within	automobile, autonomy

Root	Meaning	Examples
be-, beat-	bless	beatify
bell(i)-	war	antebellum, bellicose, belligerent
ben-	good, well	benefit, benignity
bi-	two	bicycle, bigamy, biscotti
blast-	germ, embryo, bud, cell with nucleus	fibroblast, osteoblast, blastula
bon(i)-	good	bonify, bonitary
brev(i)-	brief, short (time)	abbreviation, brevity
bull-	bubble, flask	ebullient, ebullism
burs-	pouch, purse	reimburse bursary, disburse, bursa

Root	Meaning	Examples
cac(o)-	bad	cacophonous
cad-, -cid-, cas-	fall	accident, cadence, case
caed-, -cid-, caes-, -cis-	cut	caesura, incisor, caesarean
calli-	beautiful	calligraphy
can-, -cin-, cant-	sing	cantata, canto, cantor
cand-	glowing, iridescent	incandescent, candle, candela
cap-, -cip-, capt-, -cept-	hold, take	capture, captive, conception, recipient
capit-, -cipit-	head	capital, decapitation, precipitation
cata-	down	catastrophe, catatonia, catabolic
cathar-	pure	catharsis
ced-, cess-	go	process, recede
celer-	quick	acceleration, celerity
cephalo-	head	cephalopod, encephalitis, cephalic
chiro-	of the hand or hands	chiropractic
chrom-	color	chromosome, chromium
chron	time	chronological, anachronistic
circum-	around	circumspect, circumnavigate
clast-	broken	iconoclast, osteoclast
claud-, -clud-, claus-, -oc-	close	clause, occlude, include
clin-	bed, lean, recline	decline, inclined
cogn-	know	cognitive, cognizant, recognize
con-, co-, col-, com-, com-	with, together	connect, convivial, compress
contra-	against	contrast, contraband
corpor-	body	corporation, corpse, corpuscle
-cracy, -crat	government/rule/authority	democratic
crass-	thick	crassitude
cred-	believe, trust	credibility, credentials
crypt-	hidden	cryptic, cryptography
culp-	blame, fault	culpable, exculpate
curr-, curs-	run	concurrent, recursion, cursive, current

Root	Meaning	Examples
dactyl-	finger, toe, digit	dactylogy, pterodactyl
de-	from, away from, removing	delete, demented
dendr-, dendro-	resembling a tree	dendrite
dens-	thick	condense, density
di-	two	dicot, dipole
dia-	apart, through	diagonal, diaphanous
dict-	say, speak	contradict, diction predict
doc-, doct-, dact	teach	docile, doctor, doctrine
dog-, dox-	opinion, teaching	dogmatic
dub-	doubtful	dubious
duc-, duct-	lead	abduct, conduct, introduction
dys-	badly, ill	dysentery, dysplasia, dystrophy

Root	Meaning	Examples
ec-	out	eccentric
eco-	house	ecology, economics, ecumenism
ecto-	outside	ectoderm
ego-	self, I (first person)	egotistical
en-, em-	in	emphasis
equ-, -iqu-	even, level	equivocal, equitable
err-	stray	aberration, errant
eso-	within	esoteric
etho-, eth-, ethi-	custom, habit	ethos
ex-, e-, ef-	from, out of	exclude, extrude, extend
exter-, extra-	outer	exterior

Root	Meaning	Examples
fac-, -fic-, fact, -fect-	make	defect, fictional, manufacture
fall-, -fell-, fals-	deceive	falsify, infallibility
fatu-	foolish, useless	fatuous, infatuation
feder-	treaty, agreement, contract, league	confederation, federation
fend-, fens-	prevent	defend, offense
fet-	stink	fetid, fetor
fid-, fis-	faith, trust	confidante, fidelity
fili-	son	affiliation, filial
fin-	end	finish, final
flect-, flex-	bend	deflect, inflection
flig-, flict-	strike	conflict, inflict
flu-, flux-	flow	effluent, fluency, influx
frang-, -fring-, fract-, fr-	break	fracture, fragment, frangible, infringe
fund-	bottom	fundamentalism, profundity
fund-, fus-	pour	effusive, profuse
fur-, furt-	steal	furtive

Root	Meaning	Examples
gel-	icy cold	gelid
gen-	race, kind	genocide
grad-, -gred-, gress-	walk, step, go	grade, regress
grand-	grand	grandiloquent
graph-	draw, write	graphics, graphology
grat-	thank, please	grateful, ingratiate
greg-	flock	aggregate, gregarious

Root	Meaning	Examples
hab(it)-, -hib(it)-	have	habit, prohibit
hemi-	half	hemisphere
her-, hes-	cling	adhere, coherence
heter(o)-	different, other	heterotroph
heur-	find	heuristic
histri-	actor	histrionic
hol(o)-	whole	holistic
hom(o)-	same	homosexual
hyp(o)-	under	hypoglycemic
hyper-	above, over	hyperactive

Root	Meaning	Examples
ide(o)-	idea; thought	idea, ideology
in- (1), im-	in, on	input, intercede
in- (2), il-, im-, ir-	not, un- (negation)	illicit, impossible, irrational
infra-	below, under	infrastructure
inter-	among, between	intermission, intersect
intra-	within	intramural
irasc-, irat-	be angry	irascible, irate
is(o)-	equal, the same	isometric, isomorphic, isosceles
iter-	again	iteration

Root	Meaning	Examples
jac-	lie	adjacent
jung-, junct-	join	conjunction, juncture
jus-, jur-, judic- (original)	law, justice	justice, jury, judicious
juven-	young, youth	juvenile, rejuvenate
juxta-	beside, near	juxtaposition

Root	Meaning	Examples
kine-	movement, motion	telekinesis, kinetic energy, kinesthetic
kudo-	glory	kudos
lab-, laps-	slide, slip	elapse, relapse
larg-	large	largess
lat, later-	side	lateral, latitude
laud-, laus-	praise	laudable
lax-	not tense	lax, relaxation
liber-	free	liberate
lin-	line	delineate, line
lingu-	language, tongue	linguist
log-	thought, word, speech	logic, monologue, morphological
long-	long	elongate, longitude
loqu-, locut-	speak	circumlocution, loquacious
lud-, lus-	play	allude, illusion

lumin-	light	illuminate	© Top Teacher Test Prep, LLC
Root	Meaning	Examples	
magn-	great, large	magnanimous, magnificent	
maj-	greater	majestic	
mal-	bad, wretched,	malady, malignant, manourished	
medi-, -midi-, mes-	middle	median, mesoderm	
meg-	great, large	megaphone	
merg-, mers-	dip, plunge	emerge, immerse	
meter-, metr-	measure	metric, thermometer	
meta-	above, among, beyond	metaphor, metaphysics	
micr(o)-	small	microphone, microscope	
mis-	hate	misanthropic, misogyny	
moll-	soft	emollient, mollify	
mon(o)-	one	monism, monolith, monotone	
morph-	form, shape	anthropomorphism, morphology	
mort-	death	immortal, mortality, mortuary	
mov-, mot-	move, motion	mobile, momentum, motor, move	
mult(i)-	many, much	multiple, multiplex, multitude	
mur-	wall	immured, mural	

Root	Meaning	Examples	
narc-	numb	narcosis, narcotic	
narr-	tell	narrator	
nasc-, nat-	born	nascent, native	
ne(o)-	new	neotonous	
necr(o)-	dead	necrophobia	
nect-, nex-	join, tie	connection, nexus	
neg-	say no	negative	
nihil-	nothing	annihilate, nihilism	
noct-	night	nocturnal	
nomin-	name	nominate	
nov-	new	innovation, nova	
nox-, noc-	harmful	noxious	
null(i)-	none	nullify	

Root	Meaning	Examples	
ob-, o-, oc-, os-	against	obstinate, obstreperous	
ocul-	eye	ocular, oculus	
od-	path, way	anode, odometer	
od-	hate	odious	
olig-	few	oligarchy	
omin-	creepy	ominous	
omni-	all	omnipotence, omnivore	
oner-	burden	onerous	
ont-	existing	ontogeny, ontology	
-onym	name	pseudonym	
opac-	shady	opacity	

opt-	choose	opt, optional	© Top Teacher Test Prep, LLC
Root	Meaning	Examples	
optim-	best	optimum	
or-	mouth	oral, orator	
ordin-	order	ordinal, ordinary	
orn-	showy, dressed up	adorn, ornament, ornate	
orth(o)-	straight	orthodoxy, orthosis	
oscill-	swing	oscillation	
oss(i)-, osteo	bone	osteoporosis, ossified	

Root	Meaning	Examples	
pac-	peace	pacifist	
pan-, pam-	all	pandemic	
pand-, pans-	spread	expand, expansive	
par(a)-	beside, near	parallel, parameter	
path-	feel, hurt	pathetic, pathology	
patr(i)-	father	patriarch, patrilocal	
pauc-	few	paucity	
pecun-	money	pecuniary	
ped-	child	pedagogy	
per-	thoroughly, through	perfect, pervade	
peri-	around	perimeter, periscope	
phil-	brotherly love	philosophy	
phob-	fear	hydrophobia	
phon(o)-	sound	microphone, phonograph	
plac-	calm, please	implacable, placid	
plaud-, plaus-	clap	applaud	
plic-	fold	duplication, replicate	
pod-	foot	podiatry, tripod	
pol-	pole	dipole, polarized	
poly-	many	polygon	
post-	after, behind	posterior, postscript	
prem-, -prim-, press-	press	pressure	
prim-	first	primal, primitive	
prior-	former	priority	
priv(i)-	separate	deprivation, privilege	
prob-	try	probation	
pseud(o)-	false	pseudonym	
pugn-	fight	pugnacious, repugnant	
pulchr-	beautiful	pulchritudinous	

Root	Meaning	Examples	
quadr-	four	quadrangle, quadrillion	
quer-, -quir-, quesit-, -	search, seek	Inquisition, query	
qui-	rest	quiescence	

Root	Meaning	Examples
rad-, ras-	scrape, shave	abrade, abrasion
radi-	beam, spoke	radiate
radic-	root	eradicate, radical
ram-	branch	ramification
ranc-	rancidness, grudge, bitterness	rancid, rancor
re-, red-	again, back	recede, redo
reg-, -rig-, rect-	straight	erect, rigid
retro-	backward, behind	retrograde, retrovirus
rod-, ros-	gnaw	corrode, erosion, rodent
rog-	ask	interrogation
rump-, rupt-	break	eruption, rupture

Root	Meaning	Examples
sacr-, secr-	holy	consecrate, sacred
sagac-	wise	sagacious
sali-, -sili-, salt-	jump	resilient, salient, saltatory
san-	healthy	insane, sanity
sanct-	holy	sanctify, sanctuary
schem-	plan	schematic
schis-	split	schism
sci-	know	omniscient, science
scind-, sciss-	split	rescind
se-, sed-	apart	secede, sedition
sec-, sect-, seg-	cut	secant, section, segment
sed-, -sid-, sess-	sit	reside, sediment, supersede
semi-	half	semi-final
sequ-, secut-	follow	consecutive, sequence
simil-	likeness, trust, group	assimilate, similarity
simul-	an imitating, feigning	simulation
singul-	one each	singular
soph-	Wise	sophisticated
spec-, -spic-, spect-	look	conspicuous, inspection, specimen
spect-, specul	watch, look at	spectate, speculate
sper-	hope	desperation, esperance
squal-	scaly, dirty, filthy	squalid, squalor
string-, strict-	upright, stiff	stringent
sub-, su-, sus-	below	submerge
super-, supra	above, over	supersede
supin-	lying back	supinate
syn-, sy-, syl-, sym-	with	symbol, system, synonym, symmetry

Root	Meaning	Examples
tac-, -tic-	be silent	reticent, taciturn
tang-, -ting-, tact-	touch	contact, tactile
techn-	art, skill	technology
teg-, tect-	cover	protect
tele-	far, end	telephone, telescope, telegram
tempor-	time	temporary, temporize
ten-, -tin-, tent-	hold	continent, tenacious
tend-, tens-	stretch	extend, extension
tenu-	slender, thin	attenuate, tenuous
tep-	be warm	tepid
termin-	boundary, limit, end	determine, termination
the(o)-, thus-	god	theology, enthusiasm
therm-	heat	thermometer, endotherm
tim-	be afraid	timid
trans-, tra-, tran-	across	tradition, transcend, transportation
trud-, trus-	thrust	extrusion, intrude

Root	Meaning	Examples
uber-	plentiful	exuberant
ultim-	farthest	ultimate
ultra-	beyond	ultrasound
umbr-	shade, shadow	penumbra, umbrella
un-, uni-	one	unary, union
ut-, us-	use	usual, utility

Root	Meaning	Examples
vac-	empty	vacancy, vacation, vacuum
vad-, vas-	go	evade, pervasive
vap-	lack (of)	evaporation, vapid, vaporize
vener-	respectful	veneration, venereal
ver-	true	verify, verity
verb-	word	verbal, verbatim, verbosity
vert-, vers-	turn	convert, inversion, invert, vertical
vestig-	follow, track	investigate
vid-, vis-	see	video, vision
vir-	man	virility
vit-, viv	life	vital
voc-	voice	vocal, vocation, provocative

Root	Meaning	Examples
xen-	foreign	xenophobia
-zo-	animal, living being	protozoa, zoo, zoology

